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2004 MAR -6 A 12: 44

Marianne Abely, Esquire Office of the General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20463

Re:

MUR 5026

March 3, 2004

Dear Ms. Abely:

This letter requests an extension of time to respond to your letter indicating that the Federal Election Commission found reason to believe in MUR 5026.

I am requesting a 15 day extension, until March 23, 2004, to respond to your letter. I need the extra time because the allegations made in your brief relate to events that happened four years ago and I need time to review my materials--if I have any--and to decide whether to retain a lawyer.

Thank you in advance for granting me this extension. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Tom Blakely